



THE BATTLE FOR METROPOLIS!

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AUTHORITY

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70p UK



1994

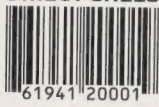
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SUPERMAN[®]

IN ACTION[®]



DIRECT SALES



69911



BY
STERN,
FELCHLE
& PASCOE

JACKSON GLICE

APRIL
1994



FROM GBS NEWS IN METROPOLIS, THIS IS PUBLIC FORUM WITH DAVIDA PERKINS...

AFTER A SERIES OF BIZARRE INCIDENTS, DOWNTOWN METROPOLIS IS COMING TO RESEMBLE A CITY UNDER SIEGE... AND THE BLAME IS BEING LAID UPON A LITTLE-KNOWN AGENCY OF OUR OWN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

TODAY, WE'LL EXAMINE THOSE ACCUSATIONS WITH OUR SPECIAL GUESTS, MAYOR FRANK BERKOWITZ AND-- VIA SPECIAL FEED-- LEX LUTHOR THE SECOND, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF LEXCORP INTERNATIONAL.

JOINING ME IN THE DISCUSSION ARE NEWSTIME COLUMNIST WILTON FREDERICKS, AND PERRY WHITE, MANAGING EDITOR OF THE DAILY PLANET.

MR. LUTHOR, YOU HOLD THE GOVERNMENT'S CADMUS PROTECT RESPONSIBLE FOR AN ATTACK ON YOUR CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS... YOU'VE GONE AS FAR AS TO CALL THE PROJECT AN "OUTLAW ORGANIZATION."

THOSE ARE SERIOUS ACCUSATIONS.

IT'S A SERIOUS SITUATION, DAVIDA. CREATURES RELEASED BY CADMUS HAVE CAUSED MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN DAMAGES TO LEXCORP...



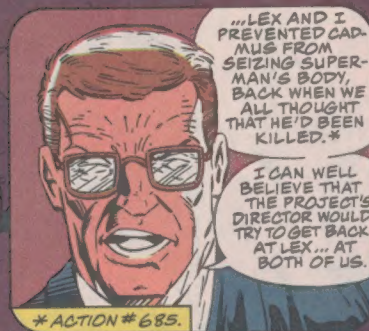
"...I MYSELF HAVE HAD TO GO INTO HIDING. THIS IS NO PARANOIA ON MY PART--"



--CADMUS IS OUT TO GET ME! AND THE MAYOR CAN TELL YOU WHY!

MAYOR BERKOWITZ--?

WELL...



"...LEX AND I PREVENTED CADMUS FROM SEIZING SUPERMAN'S BODY, BACK WHEN WE ALL THOUGHT THAT HE'D BEEN KILLED.*"

I CAN WELL BELIEVE THAT THE PROJECT'S DIRECTOR WOULD TRY TO GET BACK AT LEX... AT BOTH OF US.

* ACTION #685.



ALL VERY INTERESTING, MR. MAYOR, BUT WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO ABOUT THIS? MR. LUTHOR HAS SUGGESTED THAT METROPOLITANS EVACUATE THE CITY... AND MANY ARE!

YES--



--AND THE CITY SEEMS TO HAVE CEDED CONTROL OF DOWNTOWN TO TEAM LUTHOR. I'D LIKE TO HEAR AN EXPLANATION FOR THAT!



TEAM LUTHOR SECURITY FORCES HAVE MERELY STEPPED IN TO ASSIST CIVIL AUTHORITIES, MR. WHITE...

"...WHICH IS MORE THAN CAN BE SAID FOR SUPERMAN! THERE'S BEEN A NOTABLE ABSENCE OF THE MAN OF STEEL THESE PAST FEW DAYS-- AND I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER IF CADMUS IS RESPONSIBLE!

"THEY CERTAINLY HAD DESIGNS ON HIS BODY WHEN WE ALL THOUGHT HE WAS DEAD! DO THEY STILL? AND IF SO, WHY HAVE THEY DONE TO SUPERMAN?"

EYE OF THE HURRICANE

ROGER STERN WRITER	NORMAN FELCHLE GUEST PENCILLER	JAMES PASCOE GUEST-INKER	BILL OAKLEY LETTERER	GLENN WHITMORE COLORIST	CHRIS DUFFY ASSISTANT EDITOR	FRANK PITTARESE ASSOCIATE EDITOR	MIKE CARLIN EXECUTIVE EDITOR
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ALL RIGHT, EVERYBODY BACK OFF!



"...FELL RIGHT OUTTA THE SKY, HE DID!

IS HE... DEAD?

WHAT, AGAIN?

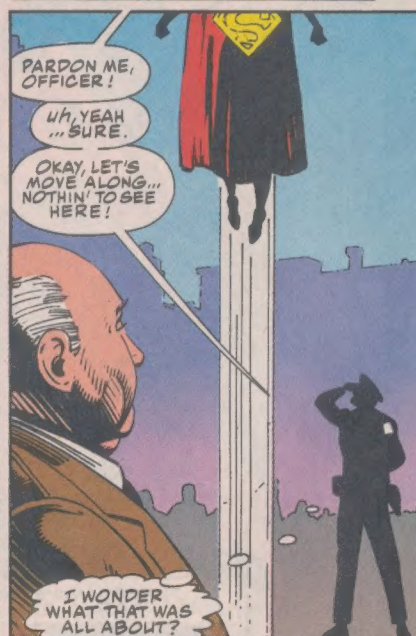
I HEARD HE CAN'T DIE.

I HEARD HE WAS SICK.

G'MON, GIVE THE MAN SOME AIR!

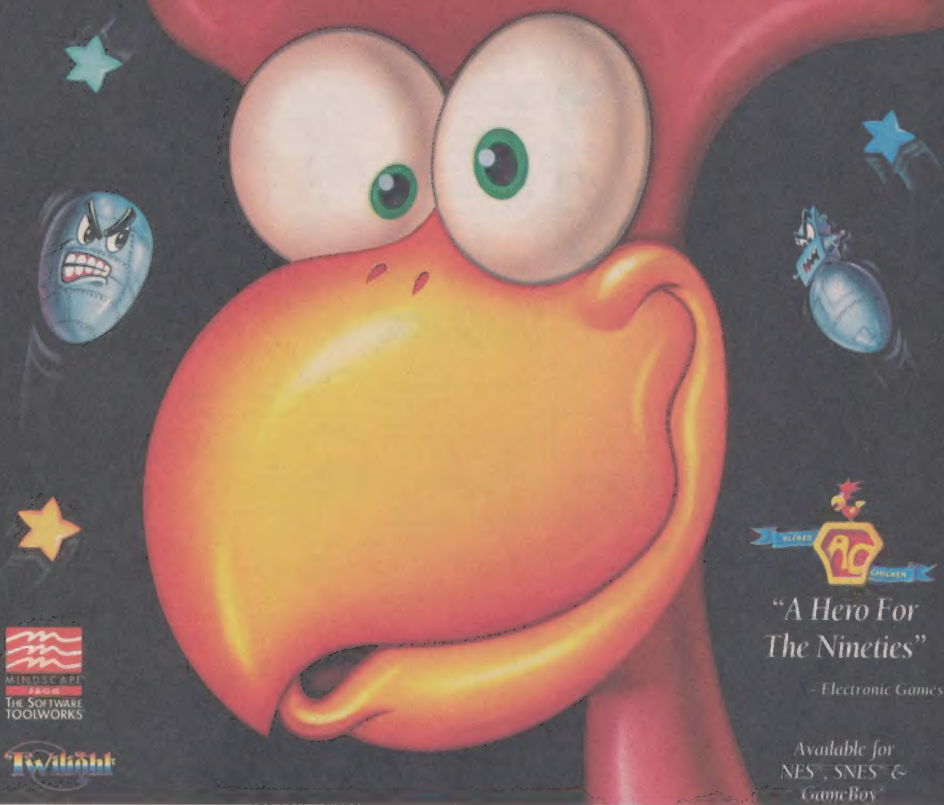
DOES HE NEED AIR?

SUPERMAN created by JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER



* IN ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #512, STILL ON SALE!

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Order by June 2nd and Get A FREE Batman/Punisher Poster!

BATMAN MARVEL



By popular demand! Batman & The Punisher form an uneasy alliance as they track down a mysterious villain & his plot to poison the water supply! 48 pages! Red Hot!

Batman/Punisher: Lake of Fire #1 (48 pages - Reg \$4.95) ... 3.95
The first new DC/Marvel crossover in years! 48 pages! Deluxe format!

Punisher/Archie: When Worlds Collide
Punisher/Archie: When Worlds Collide #1 (48 pgs - Reg \$3.95) ... 2.95
It's the most unusual team-up ever as the Punisher visits Riverdale in search of a killer! Art by John Buscema! Could be a huge surprise hit!

ETM® TOP 10 PICKS!

- 1 Batman/Punisher #1** (48 pgs.) ... 4.95/3.95
Batman & the Punisher form an uneasy alliance!
- 2 DC Master Series I Cards (Per Pack)** ... 1.50
Fully printed, super-deluxe 90 card series in the tradition of Marvel Masterpieces! Looks great!
- 3 Judge Dredd #1 (New Series)** ... 1.95/1.75
All new monthly series! Could be a huge hit!
- 4 Marvel Universe Series I (Flair - Pack)** ... 4.00
Hot new 150 card super-premium series from Fleet Sealed box contains 24 packs (240 cards)!
- 5 Marvel 1994 Swimsuit Special** ... \$5/3.50
The hottest babes by the hottest Marvel artists!

BEST-SELLERS

- Reg./Sale
- Batman Death in the Family ... \$5/3.95
 - Batman Killing Joke (Bolland) ... \$4/3.95
 - Batman Knightfall Vol 1 #2 ... \$13/9.95
 - Batman Secret of Azrael ... \$10/7.95
 - Batman Ten Nights of Beel ... \$5/4.95
 - A great 96 page story by Jim Starlin!
 - Beasts & Bull-Head Trade ... \$13/9.95
 - Comics issues #1-4 ... \$24 new art!
 - Death of Superman Trade ... \$5/3.95
 - Green Lantern Emerald Twilight ... \$8/4.95
 - Contains the entire 3-pt story! 80 pgs!
 - Hulk: Imperfect Future (New) ... \$13/9.95
 - Marvel 1994 Swimsuit Special ... \$5/3.50
 - The hottest babes by the hottest artist!
 - Spider vs. Venom/McFarlane ... \$13/9.95
 - Superman: Lois & Clark ... \$10/7.95
 - All new! The best stories! 192 pgs!
 - Superman Returns Trade ... \$15/11.95
 - Superman World Without ... \$7/5.00
 - Wolverine Trade (Miller) ... \$10/7.95
 - Wolverine vs. Typhoid Mary ... \$7/5.95
 - Wolverine battles Typhoid Mary! 96 pgs!
 - X-Men Adventure Vol 1 #2 ... \$5/3.95
 - X-Men Dark Phoenix Saga ... \$13/10.95
 - X-Men From the Ashes ... \$17/14.95
 - X-Men X-Tinction Trade ... \$25/19.95

COMICS

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 - Superman 92 (Don Jurgens) ... 1.95/1.75
 - Vamps 1 (Vertigo - New) ... 1.95/1.75
- BATMAN: KNIGHTS-END**
- Batman 510 (Knights-End) ... 1.50/1.25
 - Detective 677 (Knights-End) ... 1.50/1.25
 - Shadow Dark Knight 83 ... 1.75/1.50
 - Legends Bat 30 (Knights-End) ... 1.95/1.75
- IMAGE**
- Reg./Sale
- Cyberforce II #6 (Silverst) ... 1.95/1.75
 - Moxx 9 (Sam Keith art) ... 1.95/1.75
 - Pit 5 (Date known art) ... 1.95/1.75
 - Prophet 7 (Pitt art) ... 1.95/1.75
 - Spown 22 (McFarlane art) ... 1.95/1.75
 - Wild CATS 11 (Jim Lee art) ... 2.50/1.95
 - Union 40 (Ginger) ... 2.50/1.95
 - Violator 1.2 (Bat Signs art) ... 1.95/1.75
 - Youngblood 6 (Lisfeld art) ... 3.50/2.95

- Reg./Sale
- Batman/Punisher 1 ... 4.95/3.95
 - Batman & The Punisher follow on an uneasy alliance! 48 pgs!
 - Batman: Knights-End
 - Batman 510 ... 1.50/1.25
 - Detective 677 ... 1.50/1.25
 - Shadow Dark Knight 83 ... 1.75/1.50
 - Legends of Bat 30 ... 1.95/1.75
 - The gripping finale of Knights-End!

DC Master Series I (Pack) ... 1.50
DC Master Series I (Box) ... 49.95
New fully printed 90 card series in the tradition of Marvel Masterpieces! Sealed box contains 36 packs (216 cards)! Looks great!

Violator
Spawn's hideous arch-nemesis gets his own series! Hot!

Reg./Sale

- Violator 1.2 (New!) ... 1.95/1.75
- By Alan Moore & Bart Sears!

Valiant Files Series I (Pack) ... 1.50
Valiant Files Series I (Box) ... 39.95
All new original artwork! All new 120 card series!

- Reg./Sale
- 3 Punisher/Archie #1** (48 pgs) ... 3.95/2.95
The most unusual team-up ever as the Punisher visits Riverdale! John Buscema art! Die out cover!
 - 7 Superman: Lois & Clark Trade** ... \$10/7.95
Huge 192 pg trade featuring the best Lois & Clark stories by John Byrne, Jerry Ordway & more!
 - 8 Valiant Files Series I (Pack)** ... 1.50
 - 9 Valiant Files Series I (Box)** ... 39.95
All new original artwork! All new 120 card series!
 - 9 Violator #1.2 (All new!)** ... 1.95/1.75
Spawn's arch-nemesis gets his own series!
A riveting story by Alan Moore & Bart Sears!
 - 10 Wolverine/Typhoid Mary Trade** ... \$7/5.95
Sparks fly as Wolverine encounters Typhoid Mary!

- Reg./Sale
- Alice Cooper 1 ... 4.95/3.95
 - A tale of music & mayhem by Neil Gaiman of Sandman!
 - Blade 1 (Fall cover) ... 2.95/2.50
 - Blade confronts Dracula in this all new vampire infused series!
 - Blaze 1 (Fall cover) ... 2.95/2.50
 - The original Ghost Rider gets his own monthly series!
 - Iron Man 2020 #1 ... 5.95/4.95
 - Excellent new 64 page story by Walt Simonson & Bob Wocok!

Flair Marvel Universe Cards Series I (Flair - Per Pack) ... 4.00
Flair Marvel Universe Cards Series I (Flair - Sealed Box) ... 89.95
Strictly limited, super-premium 150 card series by the industry's top comic artists! Sealed box contains 24 packs (240 cards)!

SPIDER-MAN
With a new animated series this fall, these new Spider series are a "can't miss"!

- Reg./Sale
- Annex 1 (Spider) ... 1.75/1.50
 - Introduces Marvel's newest hero!
 - Arachnid Project 1 ... 1.75/1.50
 - Spider uncovers a conspiracy in this great new 6-issue series!
 - Black Cat 1.2 ... 1.50/1.25
 - The Black Cat gets her own series!
 - Web of Doom 1 ... 1.75/1.50
 - Spider is framed for murder in this great new 3-issue thriller!
 - Venom: Vengeance 1.2 ... 2.95/2.50
 - Venom & Vengeance form an uneasy alliance! Glossy paper!



NEW CARDS

- DC Master Series I Cards (Pack) ... 1.50
DC Master Series I Cards (Box) ... 49.95
All new 90 card fully printed series!
Box contains 36 packs (216 cards)!
- Flair Marvel Universe I (Pack) ... 4.00
Flair Marvel Universe I (Box) ... 89.95
New fully printed super-deluxe series!
Box contains 24 packs (240 cards)!
- Valiant Files I Cards (Pack) ... 1.50
Valiant Files I Cards (Box) ... 39.95
Completely new 120 card series!
Box contains 36 packs (288 cards)!

COMIC GIFT BAGS

Collector Gift Bag (10 comics) ... \$7
10 very valuable comics! Lots of #1's!
Comic Surprise Bag (20 comics) ... \$9
Contains 20 different superhero comics!

- Reg./Sale
- Machine Man 2020 #1 ... \$21/17.95
 - It's techno terror by Tom DeFalco & Barry Windsor-Smith!
 - Movella #0 (Pointed) ... 2.95/2.50
 - Contains a new pointed story by Alex Ross plus sketches & more!
 - Marvel 1994 Swimsuit ... \$5/3.50
 - All new! The hottest babes by Marvel's hottest artist! 48 pgs!
 - Punisher/Archie 1 ... 3.95/2.95
 - The Punisher meets Archie in the most unusual crossover ever!

VALIANT
Similar to Unity, the 17-part "Chaos Effect" will be red hot!

- Reg./Sale
- * Beta Set (Part 1-4) ... 9.75/7.95
 - Includes Shadowman #28, Turk #16
 - * Gamma Set (Part 5-8) ... 9.50/7.95
 - Includes Bloodshot #20, Ninja #6
 - * Delta Set (Part 9-12) ... 9.25/7.95
 - Includes Hardbiter #34, Amoritas #5
 - * Epsilon Set (Part 13-16) ... 8.00/7.95
 - Includes Solar #38, Shadowhounds #3
 - * Omega Set (Part 17) ... 2.25/1.75
 - The final! By Rob Liefeld & Jerry Ordway!
 - * Chaos Set (Part 1-17) ... 39.75/24.95
 - Save money! Contains all 17 issues plus a free Chaos Effect: Alpha #0!

COMIC SUPPLIES

- 50 Regular Baking Boards ... \$3.95
- 100 Regular Comic Bags ... \$4.50

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ENTERTAINMENT THIS MONTH

Box 470-E56D
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- Orders sent by June 2nd get a Free Batman/Punisher poster!
- Orders begin shipping on July 1st (Allow 3-6 weeks for shipping.)
- The minimum order is \$10.
- All items are guaranteed in like new, Mint-Hair Mint condition!
- Prices are per each issue or item!
- U.S. add \$3.95 for shipping, Canada \$4.95, Foreign \$7.95.
- (Cash shipping for orders over \$1000)
- Add extra \$1 for insurance
- Include check or money order
- Payment in U.S. funds only
- Phone or fax credit card orders! Call 9-6 pm Mon-Fri (EST).
- For anytime to 703-330-6200.
- Orders received after June 2nd, 1994 may receive limits on hot items & will ship in 3-6 weeks.

We reserve the right to update prices, limit quantities, & refuse any order not responsive for publisher delivery! Add \$2.00 for 1st class shipping on all orders!



THE LAST THING I REMEMBER... I WAS FIGHTING THE PARASITE SOMEWHERE UNDERGROUND... IN A SEWER!

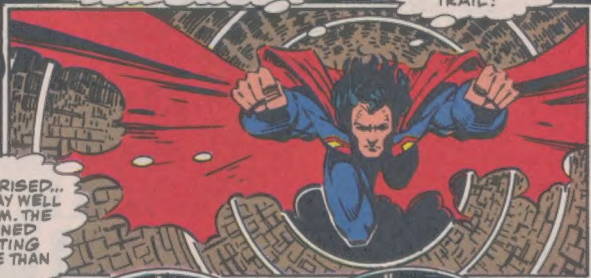
HE MUST'VE PUNCHED ME RIGHT UP THROUGH THE GROUND, THE PAVEMENT, AND EVERYTHING. BUT WHERE--? OH...



...HERE! THIS SECTION OF STREET HASN'T BEEN BLOCKED OFF YET--

--SO I COULDN'T HAVE BEEN UNCONSCIOUS TOO LONG. YES, IT WAS RIGHT AROUND THIS AREA THAT WE FOUGHT...

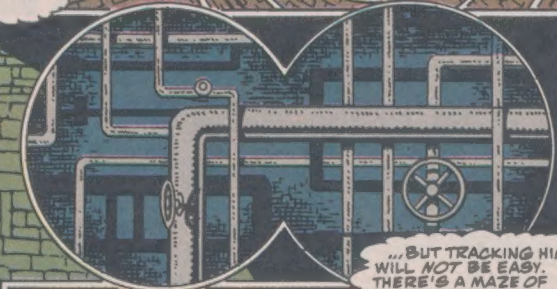
...NO SIGN OF THE PARASITE NOW, THOUGH-- NOT EVEN A HEAT TRAIL!



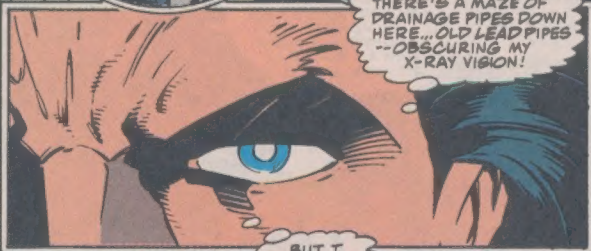
I SUPPOSE I SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED... AT THIS POINT, HE MAY WELL BE FASTER THAN I AM. THE ENERGY THAT HE DRAINED FROM ME WAS MUTATING HIS BODY EVEN MORE THAN IT HAD MINE--

--AND WHO KNOWS HOW HIS MIND HAS BEEN AFFECTED!

WHATEVER HIS CONDITION, I'M SURE HE'S BECOME NO LESS OF A THREAT...



...BUT TRACKING HIM WILL NOT BE EASY. THERE'S A MAZE OF DRAINAGE PIPES DOWN HERE... OLD LEAD PIPES-- OBSCURING MY X-RAY VISION!



BUT I MUST FIND HIM... I MUST!



"LIFE IS RARELY AS TIDY AS WE'D LIKE, SUPERMAN--"

--WE LIVE IN A CHAOTIC WORLD.

TELL ME ABOUT IT, PROFESSOR...

YES, WELL, I'M JUST SORRY THAT YOU WASTED SO MUCH TIME SEARCHING FOR THE PARASITE.

WHY? IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME, EMIL?

...MY LIFE'S BEEN MORE CHAOTIC THAN MOST LATELY!

WITH YOU? HEAVENS, NO! YOU'RE IN A--NUMBER-ONE SHAPE, SUPERMAN. THERE'S NOT A TRACE LEFT OF THE EXOTIC ENERGIES I DETECTED IN YOU THE OTHER DAY.*

BY MY RECKONING, YOU'RE BACK TO NORMAL--OR, SHOULD I SAY, SUPER-NORMAL?--AND NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON! NO, IT'S THE STATE OF THE CITY THAT CONCERNS ME...

...MUCH OF DOWNTOWN IS VIRTUALLY UNDER MARTIAL LAW SINCE THAT ATTACK ON LEXCORP THE OTHER DAY.*

* ADVENTURES #511.

*LAST ISSUE.

AND YOUNG LEX LUTHOR'S BEEN ACCUSING THE CADMUS PROJECT OF EVERYTHING UNDER THE SUN...

...MOREOVER, IN THE PAST 24 HOURS, THERE HAVE BEEN ATTACKS ON MY PERSONAL PROPERTIES ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY--FROM HAWAII TO THE ATLANTIC SHORE.

MISTER LUTHOR, YOU HAVE YET TO SHOW US PROOF THAT CADMUS IS BEHIND ANY OF THESE ATTACKS!

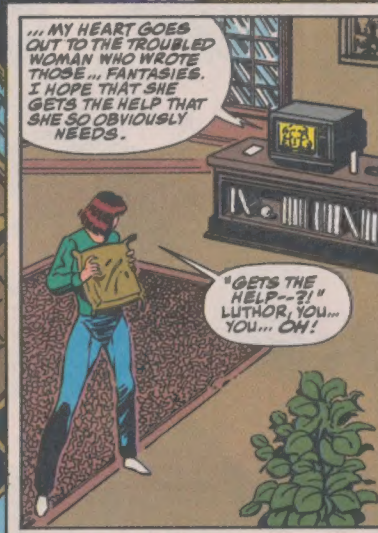
I'M SURPRISED TO HEAR YOU ASKING FOR PROOF, WHITE--ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF YOUR PAPER'S RECENT HEADLINES!

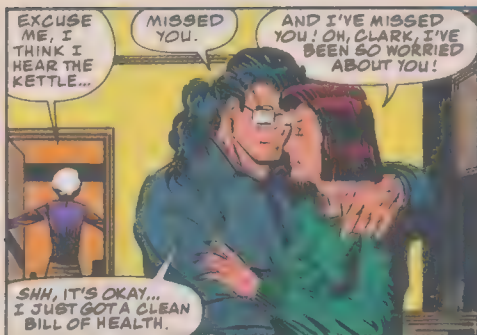
TELL ME, DID MS. LANE SHOW ANY PROOF OF THIS?

DAILY PLANET
LEX LUTHOR IS
HEAVY FIAS FIAS!
By [illegible]
[illegible]



"I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT..."



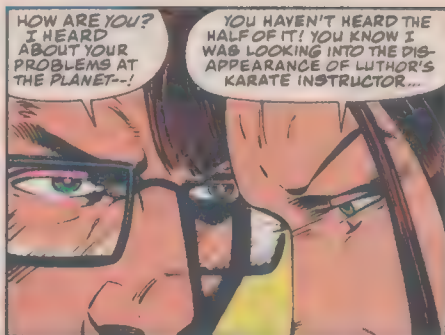


EXCUSE ME, I THINK I HEAR THE KETTLE...

MISSED YOU.

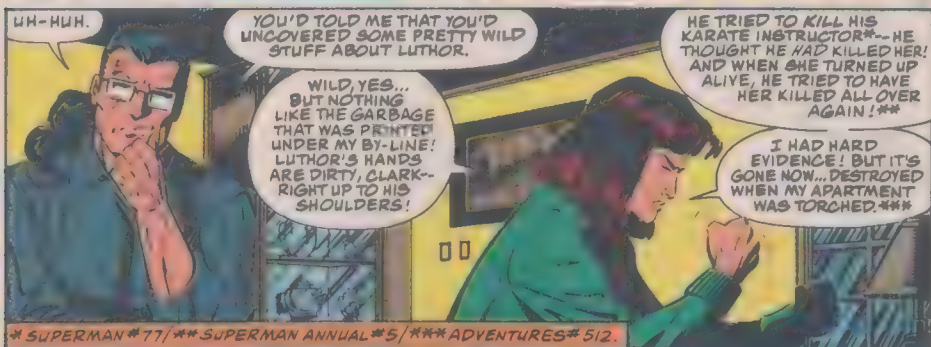
AND I'VE MISSED YOU! OH, CLARK, I'VE BEEN SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU!

SHH, IT'S OKAY... I JUST GOT A CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH.



HOW ARE YOU? I HEARD ABOUT YOUR PROBLEMS AT THE PLANET--!

YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE HALF OF IT! YOU KNOW I WAS LOOKING INTO THE DISAPPEARANCE OF LUTHOR'S KARATE INSTRUCTOR...



UH-HUH.

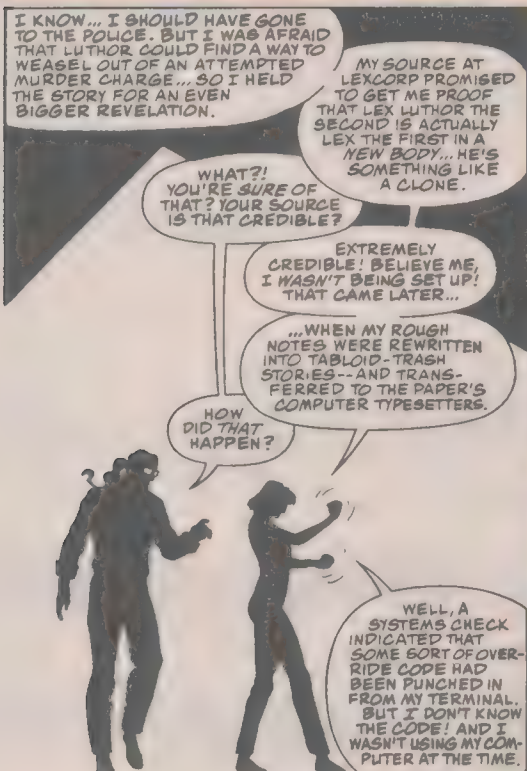
YOU'D TOLD ME THAT YOU'D UNCOVERED SOME PRETTY WILD STUFF ABOUT LUTHOR.

WILD, YES... BUT NOTHING LIKE THE GARBAGE THAT WAS PRINTED UNDER MY BY-LINE! LUTHOR'S HANDS ARE DIRTY, CLARK--RIGHT UP TO HIS SHOULDERS!

HE TRIED TO KILL HIS KARATE INSTRUCTOR--HE THOUGHT HE HAD KILLED HER! AND WHEN SHE TURNED UP ALIVE, HE TRIED TO HAVE HER KILLED ALL OVER AGAIN! **

I HAD HARD EVIDENCE! BUT IT'S GONE NOW... DESTROYED WHEN MY APARTMENT WAS TORCHED. **

* SUPERMAN #77/** SUPERMAN ANNUAL #5/*** ADVENTURES #512.



I KNOW... I SHOULD HAVE GONE TO THE POLICE. BUT I WAS AFRAID THAT LUTHOR COULD FIND A WAY TO WEASEL OUT OF AN ATTEMPTED MURDER CHARGE... SO I HELD THE STORY FOR AN EVEN BIGGER REVELATION.

MY SOURCE AT LEXCORP PROMISED TO GET ME PROOF THAT LEX LUTHOR THE SECOND IS ACTUALLY LEX THE FIRST IN A NEW BODY... HE'S SOMETHING LIKE A CLONE.

WHAT?! YOU'RE SURE OF THAT? YOUR SOURCE IS THAT CREDIBLE?

EXTREMELY CREDIBLE! BELIEVE ME, I WASN'T BEING SET UP! THAT CAME LATER...

...WHEN MY ROUGH NOTES WERE REWRITTEN INTO TABLOID-TRASH STORIES--AND TRANSFERRED TO THE PAPER'S COMPUTER TYPESETTERS.

HOW DID THAT HAPPEN?

WELL, A SYSTEMS CHECK INDICATED THAT SOME SORT OF OVER-RIDE CODE HAD BEEN PUNCHED IN FROM MY TERMINAL. BUT I DON'T KNOW THE CODE! AND I WASN'T USING MY COMPUTER AT THE TIME.



OF COURSE, I CAN'T PROVE THAT... ANY MORE THAN I CAN PROVE THAT I HAVEN'T MAXED OUT MY CREDIT CARDS. MY BANK ACCOUNTS HAVE BEEN FROZEN--

--I'VE BEEN ACCUSED OF EMBEZZLEMENT--I'VE LOST MY JOB AND MY APARTMENT--AND PEOPLE THINK I'M SOME KIND OF MENTAL CASE!

I DON'T... AND NEITHER DOES YOUR FAMILY. I BELIEVE YOU, LOIS. AND I PROMISE YOU, WE WILL CLEAR YOUR NAME.

SPAWN BATMAN Signed by Frank Miller

Limited to 10,000 numbered copies. \$50.00 ea.

Send \$1 to receive

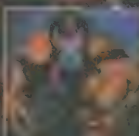
catalog with free Hellbuck cover, place an order and get one free! Shipping-Max \$3

ACTION #700

Signed by Denis Rodier. Action Comics is the first and only superhero comic to reach 700 issues. This limited and numbered piece of comic book history is limited to only 10,000 copies. \$39.00 ea.

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ULTRAMAN #1

Signed by Tom Summer & Chuck Dixon. Deluxe version limited to 2,000 copies. \$50.00 ea.

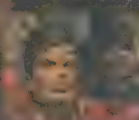


BATMAN #500

Signed by Joe Quesada, Kevin Nowlan, Comics with Gold Comic Tag and Batman #497 in portfolio. Limited to 10,000. \$70.00 ea.

ULTRAMAN #75

Signed by Superman creator Jerry Siegel. Newstar version limited to 1,000. \$50.00 ea.



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SILVER AGE

Signed by Jerry Siegel. Newstar version limited to 1,000. \$50.00 ea.

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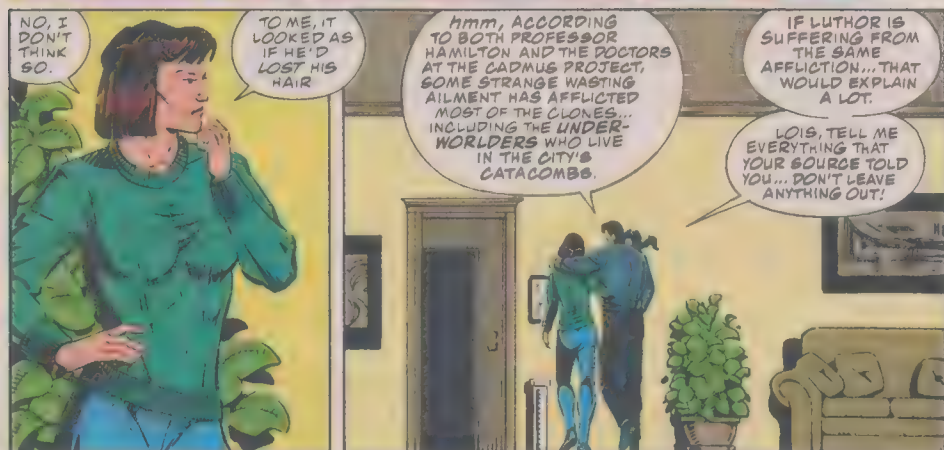
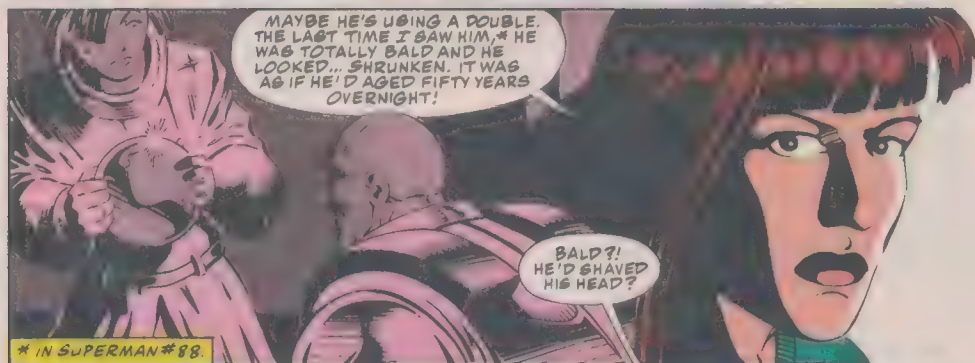
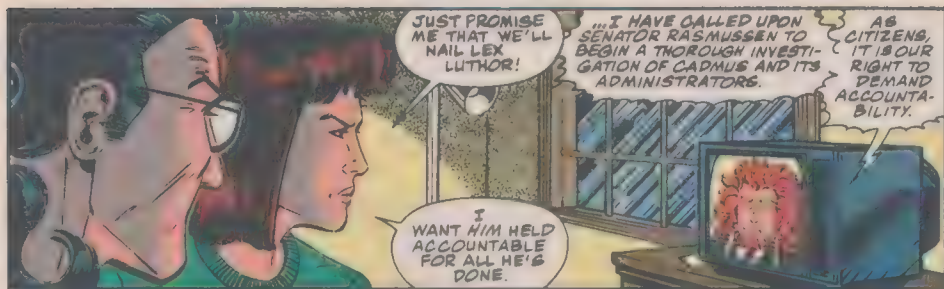
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SHORTLY...

THANKS, LOIS. THINGS ARE FINALLY STARTING TO MAKE SENSE.

mmwh! GOOD.

JUST REMEMBER..

"...WE SHARE THE BY-LINE."

I WOULDN'T WANT IT ANY OTHER WAY, HON.

heh... NOT SO LONG AGO, LOIS WOULD NEVER HAVE SHARED INFORMATION FROM HER SOURCE.

IT'S MUCH BETTER--

--BEING HER PARTNER--

AND IT CERTAINLY SIMPLIFIES THINGS FOR SUPERMAN.

JUST KNOWING THAT LUTHOR HAS SOME SORT OF GENETICALLY AUGMENTED BODY GIVES ME AN EXTRA ACE UP MY SLEEVE.

BUT IT ALSO RAISES OTHER QUESTIONS... LIKE WHO PROVIDED THE KNOW-HOW TO GROW HIM A NEW BODY? WAS IT SOMEONE FROM CADMUS? I FIND THAT HARD TO BELIEVE.

--THAN IT WAS BEING HER COMPETITOR!

STILL, IF THERE IS A CONNECTION-- AND HE BLAMES CADMUS FOR HIS DETERIORATING CONDITION-- THAT WOULD EXPLAIN WHY HE'S ALL BUT DECLARED WAR ON THEM.

QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS...



"...WHERE WILL ALL COME HOME?"

REALLY, MOM, WHY DON'T YOU GO VISIT UNCLE FRED AND AUNT LYNN IN KINGSTON UNTIL THIS MESS BLOWS OVER?

WELL, I WON'T SAY IT HASN'T CROSSED MY MIND

IN FACT, IF I LIVED DOWNTOWN, I MIGHT ALREADY HAVE LEFT. BUT THERE'S BEEN NO CALL TO EVACUATE THE OUTER BOROUGH. I SHOULD BE SAFE ENOUGH HERE IN BAKERLINE.

IT'S YOU I'M WORRIED ABOUT, JAMES OLSEN! WHAT'S THAT NOISE? ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT?

I'M FINE, MOM!

NO, I'M NOT DOWNTOWN, HONEST!

WELL, YEAH... OKAY... I AM HEADED DOWNTOWN. I'VE GOT A STORY TO COVER--THE EVACUATIONS ARE NEWS, MOM.

DON'T WORRY, I'M WITH RON TROUPE AND... #H, ANOTHER FRIEND I'LL BE CAREFUL.

KINGSTON, MOM... AT LEAST THINK ABOUT IT, OKAY? YEAH, I LOVE YOU TOO, MOM. 'BYE.

UH, MR. BIBBOWSKI? AREN'T YOU GOING A LITTLE OVER THE SPEED LIMIT?

CALL ME BIBBO, RONNIE. 'EY, YOU SEE ANYONE STOPPING US? JUST RELAX!

YOU HEARD ANYTHING NEW OVER THAT HELMET RADIO O' YERS?

AS A MATTER OF FACT, I HAVE EVACUATION IS PROCEEDING APACE AND THERE'VE BEEN SIGHTINGS OF--!

LOOK!

AWW--RIGHT! MY FAVORITE'S BACK!

HE'LL GET THIS MESS STRAIGHTENED OUT IN NO TIME! YOU'LL SEE...

"... NO ONE DOES
IT BETTER 'N
SUPERMAN!"

I'VE NEVER SEEN
SUCH OUTWARD BOUND
TRAFFIC ON THE CITY'S
BRIDGES--NOT EVEN
ON HOLIDAY
WEEKENDS.

LOOKS LIKE
THE CITY AND THE
NATIONAL GUARD
HAVE TAKEN LUTHOR'S
ADVICE TO EVACUATE
THE CITY.

I AM GLAD TO SEE
THE GUARD OUT IN FORCE.
A SITUATION TH'S
THREATENING WOULD TAX
THE LIMITS OF EVEN THE
POLICE SPECIAL
CRIMES UNIT...

--AND IT'S MORE
THAN I WOULD LIKE
TO TACKLE ON MY
OWN!"

SUPERMAN.

THANK
GOD!

LOOK IT'S
SUPERMAN!

IT'S GOOD
TO SEE THE
BIG GUY BACK
ON THE CASE.
THIS'S A
LIFT WE ALL
NEEDED!

WHERE'S
HE
HEADED?

LEXCORP TOWER... THE TRAIL
ALWAYS SEEMS TO LEAD BACK
HERE, DOESN'T IT? HOW MANY
SECRETS ARE HIDDEN BEHIND
ITS LEAD SHIELDING AND
SOUND BAFFLES?

THE LAST TIME I
CONFRONTED LUTHOR,
HE TOLD ME THAT HE
THOUGHT HIS ILLNESS
HAD BEEN TRIGGERED
BY HIS EXPOSURE TO
TOXICS IN THE REMAINS
OF ENGINE CITY!

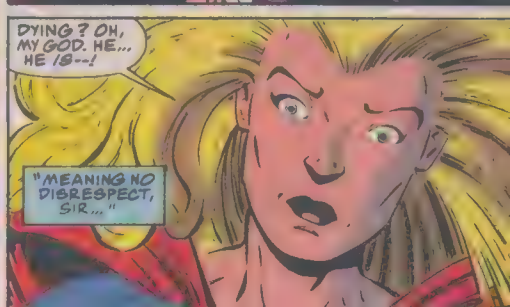
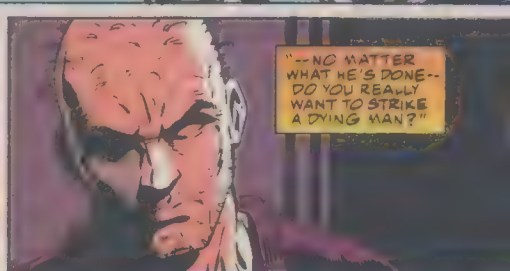
AT THE TIME THAT
SOUNDED REASONABLE,
BUT NOW I WONDER IF
IT WAS JUST ANOTHER
LIE.

WELL, THE WHOLE
BUILDING ISN'T
SHIELDED. AND I
WON'T STOP
SEARCHING UNTIL
I FIND--!

GOOD
LORD!!

KRII!
SHHH!

SUPERGIRL,
NO...



...BUT IS THIS REALLY THE WISE THING TO DO? I MEAN, THE METROPOLIS SEWER SYSTEM IS A LITTLE OUT OF OUR JURISDICTION!

AND EVEN IF WE DO FIND THESE UNDERWORLD CREATURES, WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THEY'LL LISTEN TO US?

THEY'VE NEVER EXACTLY LISTENED BEFORE!

NO... AND WITH GOOD REASON. THE UNDERWORLDERS WERE CREATED BY DABNEY DONOVAN, ONE OF THE CAPMUS PROJECT'S FOUNDERS.

DONOVAN WAS TOTALLY UNSTABLE... WHO KNOWS WHAT TORTURES HE PUT THOSE POOR GENETIC MISFITS THROUGH!

EVEN AFTER WE FREED THEM, THEY NEVER REALLY TRUSTED THE PROJECT... AND NOW THEY'RE CONVINCED THAT WE'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS NEW GENETIC PLAGUE!

GIVEN OUR HISTORY, WE HAVE A MORAL IMPERATIVE TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT AND HELP THE UNDERWORLDERS... IF THEY'LL LET US IN.

GREAT. JUST GREAT.

RISKING OUR NECKS FOR A BUNCHA FREAKS!

I HEARD THAT, MISTER! THAT WAS WAY OUT OF LINE!

SORRY, SIR, BUT THOSE CREATURES HAVE GUNS, AND THEY'RE NOT AFRAID TO USE THEM.

I KNOW, THAT'S ANOTHER REASON WE'RE DOWN HERE... TO FIND THE SOURCE OF THEIR WEAPONS BEFORE--!

GUARDIAN! I THINK I GOT A FIX ON 'EM-- YEAH!

...I WOULDN'T EXACTLY CALL IT GOOD, SIR. ACCORDING TO MY READINGS, THEY'RE BEHIND US--AND CLOSING FAST!

OBOY.

GOOD.

UH, WELL...

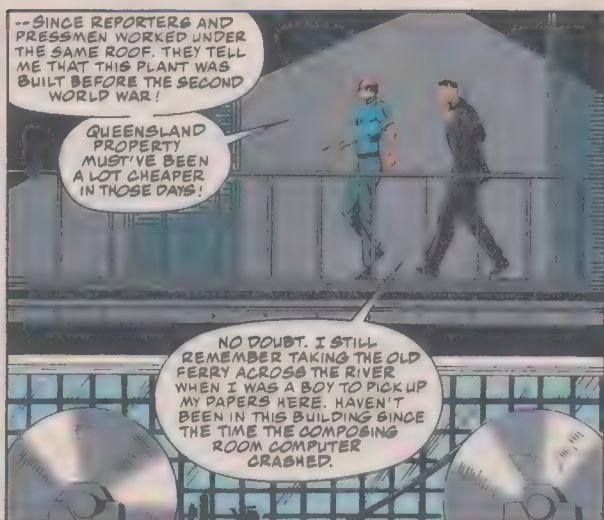
"TIME IS PRECIOUS."



...HOW SOON CAN WE BE UP AND RUNNING, JEFF?

WE'LL HAVE YOU SET UP WITHIN THE HOUR, PERRY.

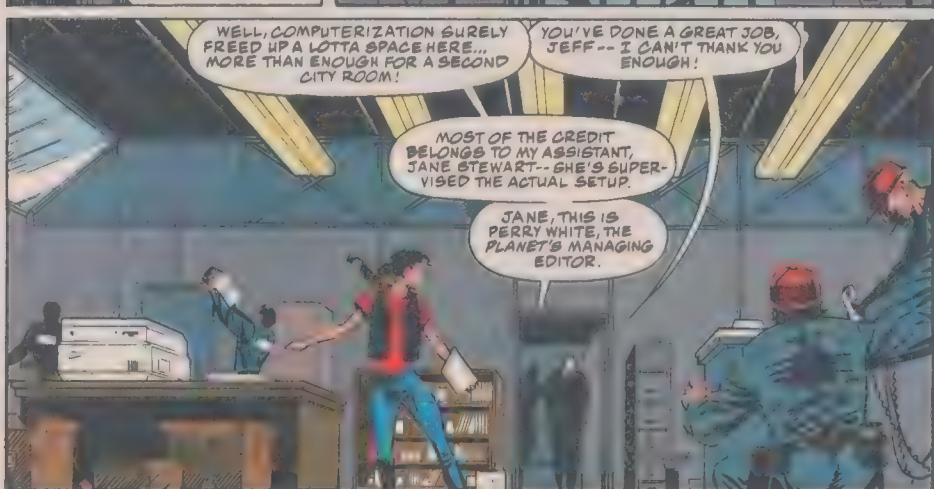
...AS SOON AS THE LAST OF THE PHONE LINES ARE IN, THE PLANET WILL BE BACK IN BUSINESS! IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME--



--SINCE REPORTERS AND PRESSMEN WORKED UNDER THE SAME ROOF. THEY TELL ME THAT THIS PLANT WAS BUILT BEFORE THE SECOND WORLD WAR!

QUEENSLAND PROPERTY MUST'VE BEEN A LOT CHEAPER IN THOSE DAYS!

NO DOUBT. I STILL REMEMBER TAKING THE OLD FERRY ACROSS THE RIVER WHEN I WAS A BOY TO PICK UP MY PAPERS HERE. HAVEN'T BEEN IN THIS BUILDING SINCE THE TIME THE COMPOSING ROOM COMPUTER CRASHED.



WELL, COMPUTERIZATION SURELY FREED UP A LOTTA SPACE HERE... MORE THAN ENOUGH FOR A SECOND CITY ROOM!

YOU'VE DONE A GREAT JOB, JEFF-- I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH!

MOST OF THE CREDIT BELONGS TO MY ASSISTANT, JANE STEWART-- SHE'S SUPER-VISED THE ACTUAL SETUP.

JANE, THIS IS PERRY WHITE, THE PLANET'S MANAGING EDITOR.

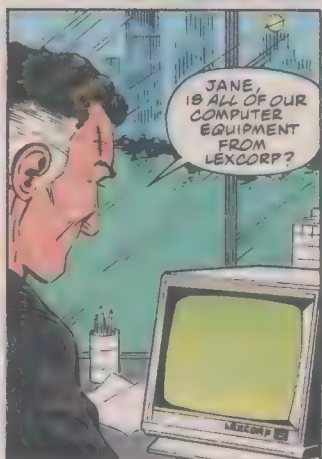


'MORNING, JANE. WHERE DO THINGS STAND?

WE JUST WENT ON-LINE WITH THE ASSOCIATED PRESS AND REUTERS, MR. WHITE. EVERYTHING SHOULD BE ACCESSIBLE FROM THE MONITOR ON YOUR DESK--

--WHICH IS RIGHT OVER HERE! I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE A WINDOW WITH A VIEW OF DOWNTOWN... YOU CAN SEE THE PLANET BUILDING FROM HERE!

THANK YOU.



JANE, IS ALL OF OUR COMPUTER EQUIPMENT FROM LEXCORP?

Comics Buyer's Guide 1993 FAN AWARDS

What are your favorites in the world of comics? **Comics Buyer's Guide**, the weekly newspaper devoted to the world of comic books, sponsors these awards to let you, the reader, cast your ballot in determining what the fan favorites are for the year.

Rules & Regulations: Only material with a 1993 cover date can win. Votes for projects that did not have a 1993 publication date will not be counted. This ballot may be copied and passed on to your friends for their votes. Anyone who loves comics can vote – but only vote once. If you vote more than once, ALL your votes will be thrown out. Vote only in the categories you want, and ignore any you don't. **Comics Buyer's Guide** is not eligible for Category 15. Every CBG voter in the United States will get a free issue of **Comics Buyer's Guide** with the results (scheduled to be #1081, dated August 5, 1993), unless you already have a current subscription to **CBG**. Votes from other countries will be counted, but we regret that free copies of **CBG** can't be mailed out of the country unless your vote is accompanied by \$3.00 in U.S. funds to cover handling and shipping. The award winners will be announced at the Atlanta Comics Expo, held July 15-17, 1994.

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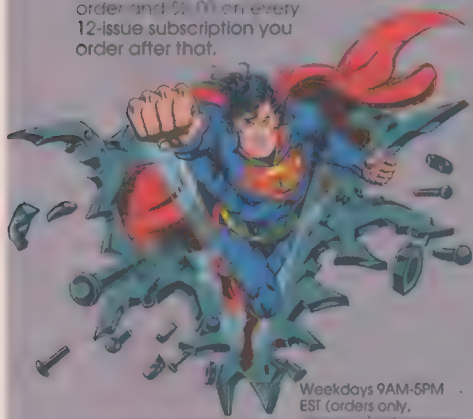
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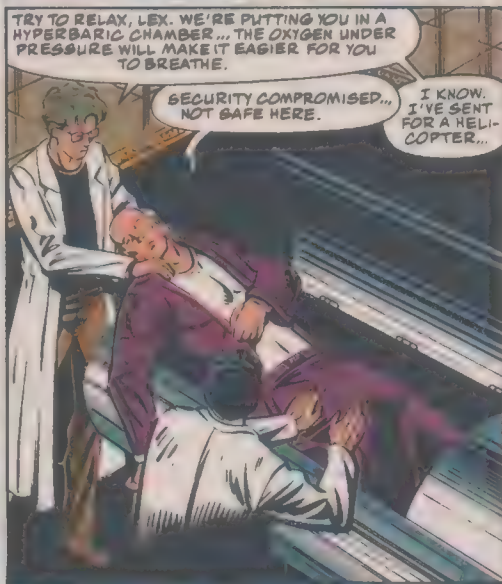
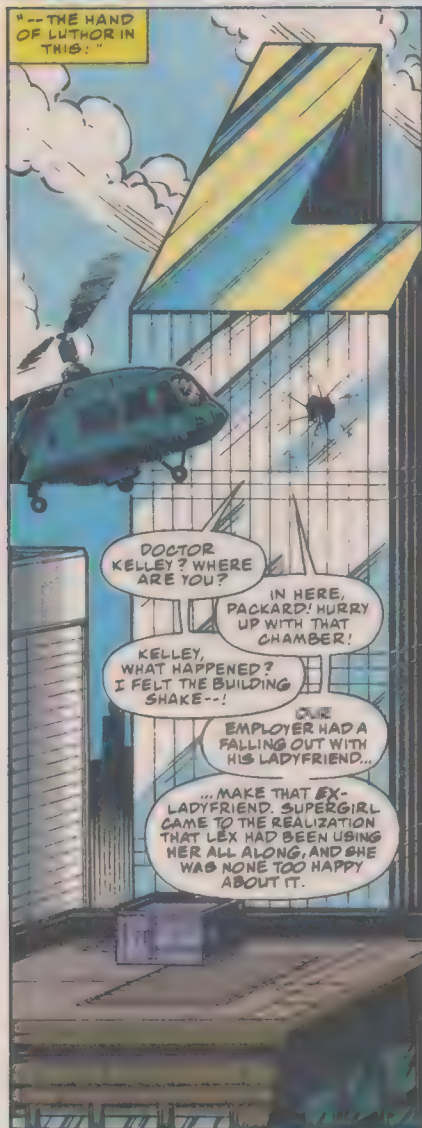
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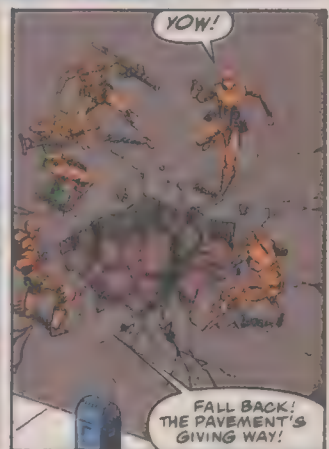
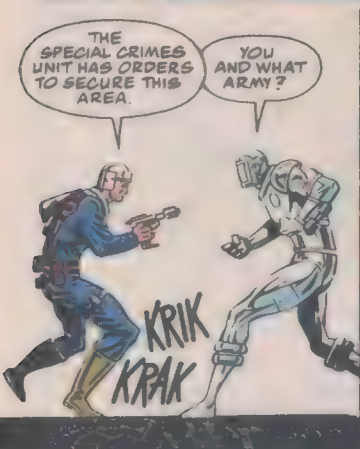
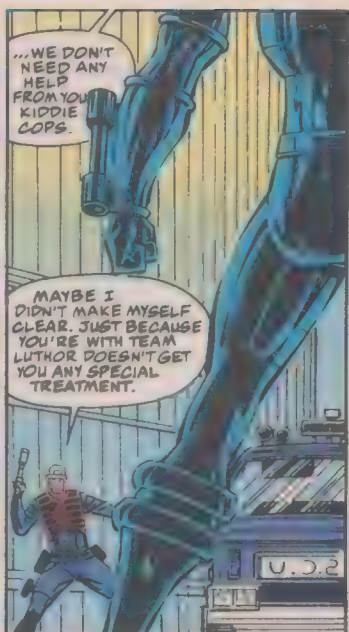
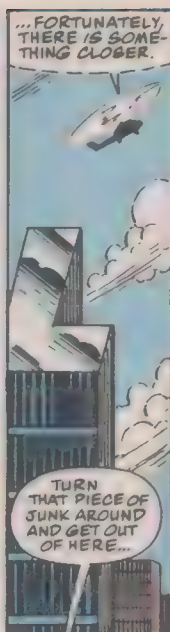
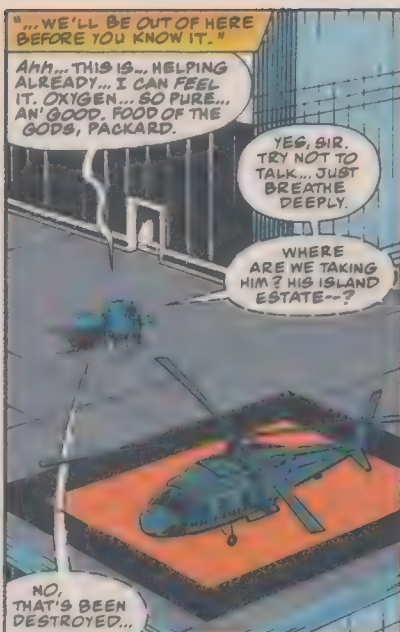
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"...THOSE ARE THE
UNDERWORLDERS

"THEY HAVE NO GREAT
LOVE FOR ANYONE
FROM CADMUS!"

WHATEVER
THEY ARE,
THEY'RE LOADED
FOR BEAR!

THEY'RE PACKING EXPERI-
MENTAL LEXCORP ORDNANCE!
HOW'D THEY GET THEIR
HANDS ON THAT?!

CEASE
FIRE!!

HUM?

NO? WE GET
REVENGE! ALL
UNDERWORLD IS
SICK... DYING!

BUT WE NOT
DIE ALONE!
CADMUS FOLK
DIE, TOO!

MAYBE
NO ONE HAS
TO DIE! MAYBE
CADMUS CAN
FIND A CURE.

MAYBE
THEY'RE THE
ONLY ONES WHO
COULD FIND
A CURE--

THIS
FIGHTING IS
GETTING YOU
NOWHERE!



-- HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF THAT?

THEY HAVEN'T THE INTELLECT TO THINK MUCH AT ALL, SUPERMAN. BUT I'VE THOUGHT OF THAT... OH, YES...

LEX, I TOLD YOU TO GET SOME REST. WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO IN HERE?

TO? NO ONE, DEAR KELLEY-- I'M JUST EAVES-DROPPING OVER A SECRET LEXCORP UP-LINK.

I CAN'T FIND DR. PACKARD.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT PACKARD... I SENT HIM OFF ON A LITTLE MISSION.

YOU NEVER LEARN--DO YOU, LEX? YOUR SCHEMING'S ALREADY COST YOU SUPERGIRL'S LOVE AND DEVOTION. IF YOU'D BEEN EVEN HALFWAY HONEST WITH HER--!

OH, PLEASE! YOU'RE STARTING TO SOUND AS SELF-RIGHTEOUS AS SUPERMAN!

I FEEL BETTER NOW, KELLEY... STRONGER. THIS BLESSED APPARATUS HAS CLEARED MY HEAD. THAT'S ALL I REALLY NEEDED!

I DARE SAY IT SERVES ME BETTER THAN SUPERGIRL'S FICKLE DEVOTION. I MAKE MY OWN LUCK... ALWAYS HAVE AND ALWAYS WILL...

"...AND I THINK IT'S HIGH TIME THAT I EXERCISED A MORE PERSONAL DEGREE OF CONTROL!"

IT TAKES AIM... IT FIRES BY ITSELF! HOW--?!

VAT-VAT-VAT-VAT!

"NEVER DENIGRATE MY SCHEMING, KELLEY. THANKS TO MY FORESIGHT, THE UNDERWORLDERS ARE ARMED WITH WEAPONS OF MY DESIGN. THUS CAN I SEE WHERE THEY ARE AIMED... AND TAKE AIM AT WHAT I SEE



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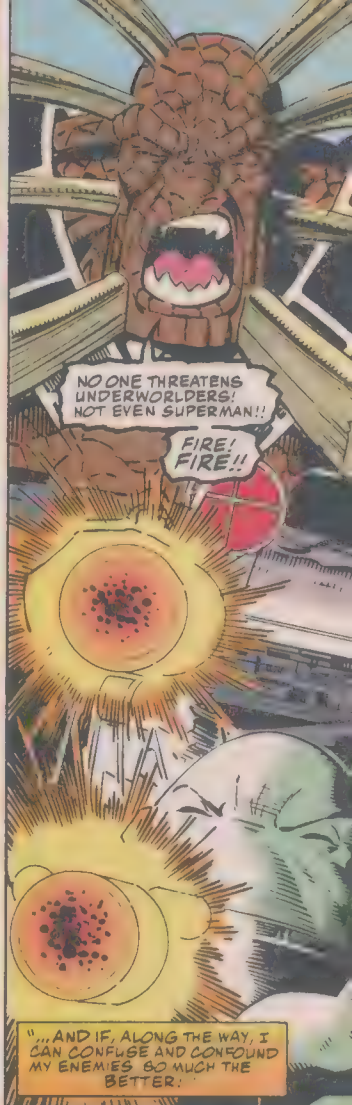


"DON'T GET ME WRONG, I WILL MISS SUPER-GIRL... HER DESERTION COMES AT AN INCONVENIENT TIME... BUT I WILL GET OVER HER."

"RIGHT NOW, MY PRIMARY CONCERN IS TO FIND A PERMANENT CURE FOR MY CONDITION..."

PUT DOWN THOSE GUNS!

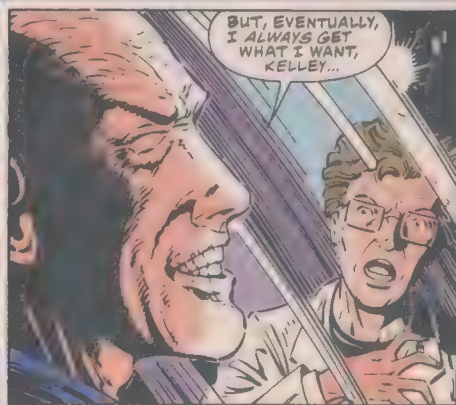
PUT THEM DOWN AND LISTEN--OR I'LL FEED THEM TO YOU!



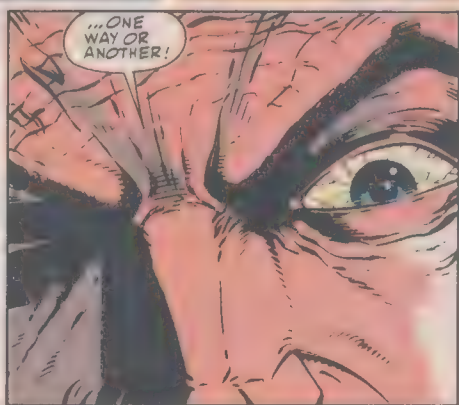
NO ONE THREATENS UNDERWORLDERS! NOT EVEN SUPERMAN!!

FIRE! FIRE!!

"...AND IF, ALONG THE WAY, I CAN CONFUSE AND CONFOUND MY ENEMIES SO MUCH THE BETTER."



BUT, EVENTUALLY, I ALWAYS GET WHAT I WANT, KELLEY...



...ONE WAY OR ANOTHER!

RE:ACTION

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Dear Mr. Carlin:

Re: ACTION COMICS #695

First of all, I must tell you that I generally do not buy comics with enhanced covers. Thanks for the choice.

Second, "Cauldron" was a very good story. Once again, we see that Paul Westfield is a snake, in league with "mad scientist" Dabney Donovan. I keep wondering when the lid is going to be blown off Cadmus and Westfield and Donovan are revealed. I understand that Supergirl will soon learn the truth about Lex Luthor, so maybe the Cadmus revelation isn't too far behind.

Pages 8, 9, and 10 show that Lois and Clark are probably the most romantic couple in all of comics. After I read those pages, I looked to see how far away ACTION is from #700. Is the wedding going to be rolling around in about five months? The wait is killing me.

Karl Kesel is doing a fine job filling in for Roger Stern, and, as always, Jackson Guice and Denis Rodier are providing excellent artwork. Keep up the good work!

Thomas Moudry
Leitchfield, KY

Well, Thomes, as you can see, there are huge changes in the lives of Cadmus, Westfield, Dabney, Supergirl, Luthor, and our biggest character of all (no, not Bibbo)... Metropolis. Some will live, some will die, some will change almost beyond recognition. Oh, and there will be a wedding next month. (But we wouldn't call newspapers yet, if we were you.)

Dear Superguys:

ACTION #695 was very enjoyable. The artwork by Jackson Guice and Denis Rodier was exceptionally good this time out—truly outstanding. I don't know what you did differently this time, but by all means keep it up!

I do have one complaint, though. Look at those shoes Lois is wearing on page 8. It's pouring rain and she's wearing open-toed, sling-backed spiked heels? You can tell

this was drawn by men! No woman, especially not one as level-headed as Lois, would wear shoes like that in that kind of weather. Her feet would be soaking wet and she'd catch her death of cold. Give us some credit, guys, and get that girl some sensible shoes.

Shoes notwithstanding, pages 8 and 9 really appealed to the old romantic in me. So, when are these two finally getting married? I'm betting on a June wedding in these very pages (which just happens to coincide with a nice, round issue number for this book). Whatever, it looks like some good stuff coming up and I'll be with you all the way.

Ingrid Nuernberg
Los Angeles, CA



Not too many readers care enough to watch out for our characters' shoe choices, Ingrid. But it's a rare quality we need to encourage in Super-fans if our supporting cast is to stay in proper footwear. Hence, a special "Shoe Baldy" trends its way toward your house. Now, what kind of boots go with rubble?

Dear Mike & Frank:

The only thing I found interesting about Cauldron was the hey-

remember-me appearance of Dabney Donovan. Anybody who can get Westfield nervous can't be half bad.

Don Cromie
Cleveland, OH

Dear Gang:

Due to the holiday season, just a few short lines this month.

First, the Cauldron story in ACTION COMICS #695 addressed a problem I've been having with the Cadmus Project. When the King (and I mean Kirby, not Elvis) created "The Project" back in the '70s, it was used to provide several interesting characters and plot lines (the Guardian, Aaron, Dubbilex, the Scrapper Troopers, the Hairies, etc.); however, since its comeback as Cadmus, the Superman writers seem to be falling into the trap of using it to provide monster-of-the-month plot devices. Now, Cadmus is run by intelligent, responsible individuals (Westfield excepted), and there's no real reason they should be churning out monsters. That was the Evil Factory's job. If you need it back, I nominate Dabney Donovan as executive director.

D.B. Bennett
Camden, AR

Dear Frank:

The subject of cloning has been a ripe topic for science fiction for the last century. What are the rights of the cloned? Are they truly unique individuals? Do they have the same rights of life as others? This subject was tackled in the WORLD OF KRYPTON miniseries a while back. It seems only logical that Kal-El would have a personal stake in this, after learning of the clone wars on Krypton and their devastating results. I'd think this would be a great issue in the DC Universe, with politicians and citizens thrusting their opinions about. With Superman caught in the middle, it's only a matter of time before Cadmus faces greater scrutiny, and governmental officials make decisions about clone

rights. Can clones vote? Can one be replaced by a clone? Can one be framed by a clone? The possibilities are endless.

Cauldron was a silly villain, one best left in the Superman archives; however, the philosophical implications of his existence should continue to haunt us for awhile. Technology in our world is seeking to match that of the DC Universe. It may not be in our generation, but perhaps it could be in the next, that clones will be a reality. What then?

Mark Lucas
Los Angeles, CA

Dear Keepers of the Faith:

When I read ACTION COMICS #695, I thought surely there must be a clue to why Superman's powers are increasing. I've been collecting since day one in 1987, and it occurred to me that in SUPERMAN #1, when he was just starting to test his powers, they were almost totally drained by Metallo. What I'm thinking is that maybe if he hadn't gotten so seriously injured at such an important stage in his growth, maybe he would have ended up more powerful than he was afterwards.

Now he's gotten a second lease on life. Plus, there's not a Metallo to take his energy away. In fact, it's just the opposite. He's gaining power as he goes. Who knows what his true limits might be?

You know, I always thought that collecting Superman comics was just a fun way that I could spend my money, but here I am 6+ years later still as hooked as ever. When I bought the book *The Death and Life of Superman*, it said in the front cover flap that many people remembered exactly where they were when the news hit of Superman's foretold death. To my great surprise, I clearly remembered where I was. I remember going straight home after someone told me of the rumor, and writing to you guys about how I would never buy another Superman comic if you killed him off. Ha, ha. As if. Welllll, maybe I was stretching it. But I could argue that I kept my word, because he's back, isn't he? And in rare form, I might add.

I sneaked a peek at SUPERGIRL #1 at the store, since I couldn't afford to get both. I really like the Supergirl character, and I hope that you will help her see the light pretty soon. I think she's smarter than you're giving her credit for. I also like Superboy. I think most teens can relate to him trying to make a name for himself under someone else's shadow. I hope that you keep both characters in

the Superman series, even if it is only with guest appearances.

John (old faithful) Hays
Oklahoma City, OK

Dear Super Team:

Karl Kesel, it seems, cannot resist including the machinations of Cadmus into his scripts. Personally, I find the technological achievements produced by the Project a little too unbelievable—even coming from a fantasy world such as this where a man truly can fly. Cauldron, though, proved that most miracles of science are only as miraculous as the engineering hands behind the creation; corruption can only breed disaster, especially where Dabney Donovan is concerned. Fortunately, Cauldron learned the importance of self-sacrifice while also giving Kevin Crow one last chance at heroism.

Further congratulations are in order to Karl for maintaining the eloquent feel Roger Stern has established in this title—particularly the interaction between Lois and Clark. Roger, for some reason even more so than Dan and Louise, routinely centralizes on the betrothed's active love—don't forget, it was in this title that Lois engaged Clark's confidence on his dual identity. Again, Karl blends this style portraying a lovely, romantic encounter atop the Daily Planet's globe. Much thanks also to Jackson who consistently draws great figures in very humanistic poses.

One matter that does need some attention is the absence of a key star belonging to these mythos: Clark Kent. Superman's powers have been steadily increasing since the Eradicator's artificial power infusion finalized the resurrection. Hence, with even more power, Superman's overbearing sense of responsibility has likewise increased, restraining Kent's work/social/love life. Kent is never seen working on a story, rarely socializes, and even romances Lois only as Superman. Perhaps after the wedding (there will be one), Superman will totally absorb Clark's life, only to masquerade when Lois so desires. Then again, maybe all he needs is a haircut.

Joe Kucharski III
Haddon Heights, NJ

You know the old expression, Joe: "It's kind of hard to maintain a secret identity while absorbing massive amounts of energy and growing to grotesque proportions." (Will Rogers said that, didn't he?) But worry not—Clark is not out of the picture by a long-shot. After all, it was Clark (not the big S) who proposed to Lois. You

wouldn't want her to lose a fiancé to gain a husband, would you? As for that wedding—yes, there will be one...but it did take these two fifty-three years to get engaged! Don't rush! Don't rush!

—Chris Duffy
Assistant editor of grotesque proportions

IN ONE WEEK: In MAN OF STEEL #34, Superman battles to save Metropolis from the war that's broken out, while in the bowels of LexCorp, Lois discovers the secret to Luthor's ultimate plan! Also, Superboy guest-stars, and two champions fall in battle! And what is the secret of Lois Lane's mailman—a man who dreams of a city called...Dakota? Louise Simonson writes, Jon Bogdanove pencils, and Dennis Janke inks to furnish your Superman needs in seven days.

IN TWO WEEKS: In SUPERMAN #90, an enraged Superman scrambles to keep Metropolis alive, as Luthor unleashes his deadliest and most desperate plan—and Westfield uses the opportunity to up the ante in the Cadmus/Underworld/LexCorp war! And someone has returned to the halls of Cadmus to take care of some unfinished business! Be there in fourteen when writer Dan Jurgens, guest artist Brent Anderson, and fantastically talented inker Joe Rubinstein serve up the hottest Superman around.

IN THREE WEEKS: In ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #513, Cadmus may have the cure to the clone disease, and Lex wants it—at any cost! It's an all-out fight for the fate of the Project as Superman and the toughest Team Luthor ever duke it out in Cadmus's energy reactor. Plus—Superboy! It's all yours in twenty-one, courtesy of Kesel, Kitson, and McCarthy.

IN FOUR WEEKS: In the 700th issue of ACTION COMICS, the battle for Metropolis comes to a crashing close as Superman teams with Superboy and Supergirl to put an end to Luthor's monstrous machinations! And Lois Lane is closing in on nailing Lex Luthor for his crimes! But will they all be too late to save Superman's adopted city? You don't dare miss this seminal issue of ACTION COMICS—brought to you by Stern, Guice, Rodier and Curt Swan! No one you know in Metropolis will ever be the same!

Jackson Guice pencilled and inked this month's cover, Suzanne Bourdages colored it, and you bought it! Thank you.

DC UNIVERSE

It's hard to decide where Jack Kirby made his greatest contribution.

As an artist, he was among the first to realize that a comic book page is not a screen, or a stage, or a strip—it's a *page*, with unique demands and possibilities. Jack demonstrated those possibilities and in the process helped create the visual vocabulary that gives the best comics their graphic vitality and communicative power. Everyone working in the form today owes him a debt of thanks.

As a storyteller, Jack's mythic imagination was unrivaled in comics or any other medium. He had a gift for taking the cosmic themes, casting them as superhero-and-science-fiction stories and, through his superb graphic narrative, making them both accessible and exciting to everyone, from urchins to academics. *Thor*, *The X-Men*, *The Fantastic Four*, **THE NEW GODS**—the list of Jack's comic book mythologies is an honor roll. But his talent wasn't only for grand, cosmic sagas; he did extraordinary work in westerns, crime dramas, and, most surprisingly, in romance comics, a genre Jack and Joe Simon created.

Despite a catalogue of achievements that will probably never be equalled, Jack was quiet, modest, genial—a thoroughly nice guy and a perfect model of the hard-working professional.

Jack died on February 6, 1994. He was a very young 76.

Anyone who cares about popular culture will miss Jack Kirby, the artist. And anyone who was fortunate enough to know him personally will grieve for Jack Kirby, the man.

JACK KIRBY

1917-1994

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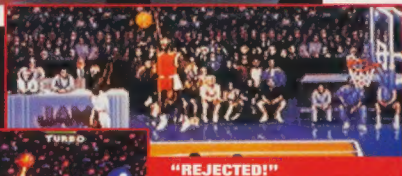
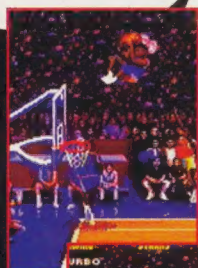
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ANNUALS SPRING/SUMMER 1994



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